

BRIXWORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1920.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting herewith my FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT dealing with the Vital Statistics and the Sanitary Condition of the Brixworth Rural District, comprised of 36 Parishes, having an area of 63,647 acres, an estimated population of *10,941, and 2,987 families or separate occupiers.

* This estimate refers to the civilian population only, and was supplied by the Registrar-General for the purpose of calculating the various death-rates for the year 1919. Similarly for the purpose of calculating the birth-rate a further estimate of the population was supplied, viz., 11,397. (The estimates for 1920 are not yet published, consequently the populations for 1919 are again used in arriving at the birth-rate and various death rates for the year under review.) The following extract from the Memo. on the subject issued by the Registrar-General is self-explanatory :—

“ The ‘ death-rate population ’ excludes all non-civilian males, whether serving at home or abroad. This is necessary for the purposes of local death-rates because it has proved impossible to transfer the deaths of non-civilians to their areas of residence or to deal in any other satisfactory manner with the local mortality of this element in the population. These estimates are based mainly upon the rationing returns kindly placed at the Registrar-General’s disposal by the Ministry of Food.

The ‘ birth-rate population ’ on the other hand is intended to include all the elements of the population contributing to the birth-rate. It consists, therefore, of the death-rate or civilian population *plus* all non-civilians enlisted from this country, whether serving at home or abroad. This non-civilian element has been distributed over all the districts in the country in proportion to their estimated civilian population.”

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.—During the year 1920, there were 262 births registered in the District, as against 169 for the year 1919, an increase of 93, or a birth-rate of 22·9 per 1,000 of the population, as against 14·8 for 1919. This rate cannot be regarded as other than very satisfactory, though it has to be noted that the girls exceeded the boys by 36.

DEATHS.—The total deaths (excluding 13 deaths of persons not belonging to the District, and including 19 deaths of persons dying outside the District but belonging to it) amounted to 135 as against 152 in 1919, showing a decrease of 17, and a death-rate of 12·3 per 1,000 of the population, as against 13·8 for the year 1919. This is also a very satisfactory rate and it may be of interest to state that seventy-two, or 53·3 per cent. of the deaths during the year 1920 were of persons 65 years of age and upwards, 25 of these being over 70, 28 over 80, and 6 over 90 years of age.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—The number of deaths under one year was 12 as against 13 for 1919, or a rate per 1,000 births of 45·8, as against 76·9 for the year 1919. (Seven of these deaths were due to Premature Birth and Debility).

PHTHISIS MORTALITY.—Eleven deaths occurred from this disease, as against 3 for 1919, or a death rate of 1·00 per 1,000 of the population, as against 0·27 for the year 1919. This is, unfortunately, a considerable increase on the previous year’s figures.

There was also one death from Tuberculous Meningitis.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES MORTALITY (Bronchitis and Pneumonia). Twelve deaths were caused by these diseases, giving a death-rate of 1·09 per 1,000 of the population, as against 19 deaths and a rate of 1·73 for the year 1919. This is an improvement on previous years.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES MORTALITY (excluding deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis over two years of age). This is a most pleasing feature, only one death occurring, from Measles, and that being of a person over 65 years of age, giving a rate of 0·09, as compared with five deaths and a rate of 0·45 for the year 1919.

CANCER MORTALITY.—There were fifteen deaths from this disease, or at the rate of 1·37 per 1,000 of the population, as against twelve deaths and a rate of 1·09 for the year 1919. Nine of these deaths occurred in persons of 65 years and upwards.

SANITARY REPORT.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

39 cases were notified during the year as against 59 for 1919.

SCARLET FEVER.

4 cases were notified during the year as against 5 for 1919.
3 of the 4 cases occurred at Overstone.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANEOUS CROUP.

10 cases were notified during the year as against 17 for 1919.

The chief outbreak occurred at Overstone where there were 6 cases all of which were notified within a few days of each other and all except 2 were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

TYPHOID FEVER.

No cases were notified during the year as against 1 for 1919.

PHTHISIS AND OTHER TUBERCULOUS DISEASES.

19 cases were notified as against 18 for 1919.

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR WERE—

5 of Erysipelas and 1 of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.

CEREBRO SPINAL MENINGITIS.

This case occurred in a girl aged 16 years, living in a very overcrowded house at Holcot. The case was removed to the Northampton Hospital and made a complete recovery.

BIRTHS.

203 were notified ; 262 registered.

MEASLES.

During the year the Schools were closed in the following villages for outbreaks of Measles :—

Brixworth and Harlestone for a month.

Moulton and Pitsford for 14 days.

In Brixworth the epidemic was very extensive, most of the children under 9 years of age and a few adults contracted the disease.

Occupation. Agricultural and Ironstone Works

Staff. One Sanitary Surveyor and Inspector for the whole district, comprising 37 villages and an area of 61,766 acres.

Water Supply. 8 villages have a water supply by pipes and taps, by Private Estate Works.

1 village has a supply (by loan, L.G.B.) R.D.C.

4 villages have a partial supply by pipes.

24 villages are supplied by wells and springs.

Rivers or Streams. No complaint has been received by the Council of any pollution in this district.

Sewers. 19 villages have proper sewers, laid by Loans from L.G.B.

1 village has „ „ without Loan, R.D.C.

1 „ „ „ „ laid by Northampton Corporation.

3 villages have „ „ „ „ Private Estates.

2 „ partial sewered by R.D.C.

1 village „ „ by Private Owner.

10 villages have no sewers, the Highway drains in these Villages are used as slop drains.

Sewerage and Disposal. There are in this district 24 Filtration Areas.

Area of land used—38 acres 3 roods 24 poles.

The sewage in all cases flows on to the areas by gravitation.

Intermittent downward filtration and broad irrigation are both used.

4 Septic Tanks with large filters, and 6 Screening Tanks are also in use.

W.C.'s. 22 villages have hand-flushed W.C.'s.

2 „ „ E.C.'s or pails.

13 „ „ pit privies.

Scavenging. No cleansing of ashpits, privies, cesspits, &c., is done by the Council.

A cart in many villages is sent round periodically to collect old food tins and broken glass and crockery.

Sanitary Inspections. No classified statements or records have been made or kept since 1915.

Notices statutory, 26—7 standing over.

„ informal, 72—carried out.

Premises and occupations controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations.

Houses let in lodgings, offensive trades, underground sleeping rooms.

There are no lodging houses or underground sleeping rooms.

1 Knacker license.

Schools. The Sanitary arrangements at the Elementary Schools are generally very good, in a few cases P.C.'s are in use.

Milk. No complaint has been received by the R.D.C. from any of the large depôts where the milk is sent, of any tuberculous milk during 1920.

Milch Cows. Many animals in this district are of a super grade and generally are clean and healthy stock.

Cowsheds. These are only used for milking during seven months in the year, the other five months partially used for feeding purposes.

No complaint has been made or received against the owners, and the cowsheds are kept clean and ventilated.

Meat. I. No inspections. No diseased meat reported.

Slaughter houses, good order and clean.

II. No public abattoir.

III. No action taken.

IV. No meat or carcase condemned.

Slaughter-houses. 1914—24. 1920—17.

Sale of Food and Drugs. No action.

Infectious Hospital of two Wards. Beds—4 males and 4 females, for Scarlet Fever or Diphtheria.

No Hospital for Small Pox.

The Hospital was opened on April 30th and closed May 31st in 1920. Afterwards was thoroughly cleansed, distempered and painted throughout, and is in very good order.

Housing. I. (a) Shortage of Houses—about 130 to 150.
(b) Building Scheme of 130 new houses.

Overcrowding. II. (1) About 1 per cent.
(2) Two-bedroom houses.
(3) Proposed erection of 130 three-bedroom houses.
(4) = 5 cases. Notice served. Children put out to sleep. Several bad cases standing over until proposed houses are built.

Fitness of Houses. III. (1) (a) About 18 parishes the workmen's houses are good.
(b) In some of the other parishes the houses are very old.
(c) The War stopped very nearly all repairs.
(2) See details
(3) No difficulties.
(4) Nil.

IV. Nil.

V. Nil.

From my Report you will notice the extraordinary increase in the birth-rate and a decrease in the death-rate and infectious disease. There has been a marked increase in deaths from Phthisis and a slight increase in deaths from Cancer. On the whole I consider the health of the district has been very good.

I have to thank the Sanitary Inspector for his hearty co-operation, and you, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, for your courtesy and support.

I am,

Yours obediently,

R. WINTERBOTHAM.

TABLE I.

BRIXWORTH RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1920 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population Estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Nett.						Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Of Non-residents registered in the District.	Of Residents not registered in the District.	Number	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.	Number	Rate.
1915	11,559	217	18·7	185	16·0	37	18	17	78·3	166	14·3
1916	11,559	213	18·4	168	14·5	27	11	13	61·0	152	13·1
1917	11,559	185	16·0	166	14·3	28	25	16	86·4	163	14·1
1918	11,559	167	14·4	162	14·0	26	19	9	53·8	155	13·4
1919	* 10,941	169	14·8	149	13·6	15	18	13	76·9	152	13·8
1920	* 10,941	262	22·9	129	11·7	13	19	12	45·8	135	12·3

Total population at all ages	11,833	} Census 1911
Area of District in Acres	...	...	63,647
Total families or separate occupiers	...	...	2,987

* Civilian.

TABLE II.

DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1920 CLASSIFIED BY AGE AND CAUSE.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non- Residents" in Institutions in the District.
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	
Measles ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	b 3
Influenza ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	11	...	1	...	...	3	6	1	...	11 (a 1, b 9, c 1)
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer—Malignant Disease ...	15	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	9	d 1
Rheumatic Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Meningitis ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease ...	12	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	9	...
Bronchitis ...	9	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	5	...
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	3	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ...	5	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	d 2
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition...	3	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Mal- formations, including Pre- mature Birth ...	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Suicide ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases ...	47	1	...	1	...	3	2	6	34	d 6
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	7	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	5	...
Totals ...	135	12	4	2	2	8	19	16	72	23

(a) "Non-resident" at Creton Sanatorium.

(b) "Non-residents" at Northampton County Borough Hospitals.

(c) "Resident" at

(d) "Residents" at Workhouse.

TABLE III.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1920.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	1	...	2	...	3	1	...	...	...	4
Premature Birth	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Other Defined	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Totals	5	...	2	...	7	2	1	1	1	12

Nett Births in the year	{	legitimate ...	250
		illegitimate ...	12
Nett Deaths in the year of	{	legitimate infants ...	11
		illegitimate infants ...	1

Table showing Number of Inhabited Houses in the Brixworth Rural District.

	Inhabited Houses.	One Bedroom Houses.	Two Bedroom Houses.	Three Bedroom Houses.	Total of 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Houses.	Population 1911.
Althorpe	17	4	5	6	15	48
Boughton	94	...	28	18	46	431
Brampton, Chapel	52	...	21	23	44	242
Brampton, Church	45	4	16	13	33	169
Brington, Great	}	...	14	26	50	}
Brington, Little, and Nobottle			31	31	62	
Brixworth	291	12	117	89	218	1209
Cold Ashby	69	2	24	16	42	238
Coton	22	2	4	5	11	76
Cottesbrooke	47	7	15	13	35	190
Creaton	92	2	35	30	67	336
Draughton	28	...	21	3	24	122
East Haddon	126	4	50	46	100	478
Faxton	9	...	5	3	8	41
Guilsborough	128	7	42	27	76	538
Hanging Houghton	26	...	14	10	24	104
Hannington	38	6	14	7	27	149
Harlestone	130	1	45	51	97	536
Hazelbeech	36	...	12	6	18	121
Holcot	82	5	47	7	59	289
Holdenby	46	1	20	6	27	202
Hollowell	45	...	15	9	24	180
Lamport	34	...	9	16	25	175
Maidwell	43	1	24	8	33	179
Mawsley	4	...	4	...	4	20
Moulton	343	6	199	87	292	1240
Moulton Park	28	...	2	16	18	142
Naseby	117	2	39	49	90	456
Old	77	2	38	17	57	337
Overstone	59	...	15	14	29	214
Pitsford	128	12	51	18	81	464
Ravensthorpe	85	10	45	10	65	322
Scaldwell	73	...	38	15	53	274
Spratton	177	8	81	51	140	718
Teeton	17	...	5	5	10	73
Thornby	52	1	14	8	23	208
Walgrave	157	2	71	65	138	634
Totals	2,986	111	1,230	824	2,165	11,183

BRIXWORTH RURAL HOUSING SCHEME.

Table showing Housing Progress during the year 1920.

Houses in course of erection.		Proposed Houses.		Houses completed in 1920.		Houses in course of erection.
Spratton	...	Church Brampton—3	...			
3 Class B		(Plans prepared and sanctioned)				
6 Class A		Great Brington—3	...	Cottersbrooke—1		Scaldwell—2
		(Plans prepared and sanctioned)				Class B
Pitsford	...	Little Brington—2	...			
		Brixworth—20	...			Creaton—1
8 Class A		Tender accepted for 6	...	Pitsford—4	...	Army Hut
		Cold Ashby—6 being erected	...	Class B		
		Creaton—6 tenders asked for	...			Thornby—1
Moulton	...	East Haddon—6 plans ready	...			Army Hut
		Guilsborough—6 „ „	...	Spratton—1		
6 Class A		Hanging Houghton—3	...	Army Hut	...	Chapel Brampton
		Hannington—3 plans ready	...			Bungalow Villa
		Harlestone 4 „ „	...			
Cold Ashby	...	Holcot 6 „ „	...	Boughton—2		
		Holdenby—2	...	Army Huts	...	Guilsborough—2
6 Class A		Hollowell—2 plans ready	...			Class B
		Lamport—2	...			
		Maidwell—2	...			Boughton—1
		Moulton—20 : 6 being erected				Villa
		Old—3 plans ready	...			
		Pitsford—8 : 4 covered in	...			
		Ravensthorpe—6	...			
		Spratton—9 : all covered in, 3 finished				
		Thornby—2 plans ready	...			
		Walgrave—6	...			
29		130		8		8
		including the 29 in course of erection.				

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

Houses in the Rural District notified under Section 69 during the year 1920.

Parish.		By the Inspector.		Closing Orders.	Remarks.
Brixworth	...	2 old houses unfit for human habitation		Closed	... Now fallen down
Brixworth	...	3 houses—Thos. James, Northampton	...	Closing Order became operative	The owner appealed. Minister of Health held a public inquiry. Houses still occupied.
Guilsborough	...	1 house—J. Izzitt, Northampton	...	Order : Section 15	Repairs being carried out by J. Izzitt
Holcot	...	1 house—Mr. Troupe	...	Order for repairs Section 15	No action taken ; still occupied
Moulton	...	2 houses—J. Nichols, Northampton	...	Closing Order became operative	Owner applied for In-jectment Order, this was refused by the Magistrates
Moulton	...	3 houses—Mr. Hooley	...	Order : Section 15	Repaired by owner
Pitsford	...	3 houses—Mr. G. H. Drummond		Order : Section 15	Repairs being carried out by owner

